



02-02-04

Attorney Docket No. 1946

Patent Application

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Steven T. Charles) Group Art Unit: 3763
Serial No.: 10/672,188) Examiner: NYA
Filed: September 26, 2003)
For: Vitreoretinal Instrument

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail No. EV 124464213 US

Date: January 30, 2004

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby submits this statement. This submittal is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and § 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider each of the references cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08 and, after such consideration, initial the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08 in the space provided next to each reference. Please return a copy of the initialed Form PTO/SB/08 with the next communication transmitted to the Applicant. A copy of each of the cited references is enclosed with this communication. Any markings, underlines, notations or the like present in any reference are not to be construed as drawing the Examiner's attention to such marking or away from other portions of the reference.

This statement is filed before the mailing of a first office action on the merits pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), and therefore no fee for the consideration of this statement is enclosed herewith. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required for the consideration of this statement to Deposit Account No. 501051 of Alcon, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. David Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "W." followed by a period and the last name "Lee".

W. David Lee
Reg. No. 39,743

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1
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1

of

2

Attorney Docket Number

1946

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/672.188

Filing Date

09/26/03

First Named Inventor

Steven T. Charles

Art Unit

3763

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

1946

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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First Named Inventor	Steven T. Charles
Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	1946

Sheet 2 of 2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	B1	Alcon 2001 Vitreoretinal Product Catalog, p. 23, item 11 "Small Gauge Retinal Needle"	
	B2		
	B3		
	B4		
	B5		
	B6		
	B7		
	B8		
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